

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MADRID 04939 161027Z

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 2449

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 4939

EXDIS

FOR AMBASSADOR MCCLOSKEY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, NATO, SP, US

SUBJ: RESPONSE TO CORTINA ON NATO/NON-NATO APPROACH

REF: STATE 166196

1. I THINK YOUR PROPOSED RESPONSE TO CORTINA IS EXCEL-
LENT. THE ONLY COMMENT I WOULD MAKE IS THAT IT SEEMS TO
OVERLOOK OR IGNORE CORTINA'S STRENGTH OF FEELING WITH
REGARD TO WHAT HE BELIEVES TO BE THE UNACCEPTABLE ATTI-
TITUDE OF THE NATO COUNTRIES WHO CONTINUE TO ENJOY PROTEC-
TION INDIRECTLY AFFORDED TO THEM BY US FACILITIES IN
SPAIN WHILE REVILING AND OSTRACIZING SPAIN ON THE OTHER
HAND. I WOULD, THEREFORE, SUGGEST THAT PARA 12 MIGHT BE
REVISED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

QTE FINALLY, AND QUITE APART FROM THE OVERALL IMPACT OF
THE SPANISH POSITION, WE ARE CONCERNED WITH THE TIMING
OF THE SPANISH PROPOSAL. WE FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT THE
SPANISH GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS AS UNDESIRABLE, INDEED UN-
ACCEPTABLE, THE ATTITUDE OF CERTAIN NATO COUNTRIES TOWARD
SPAIN. AT THE SAME TIME, IT SHOULD BE RECALLED THAT THE
UNITED STATES HAS MADE MAJOR EFFORTS TO STRESS TO THE NATO
ALLIES THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTIONS SPAIN IS MAKING TO
WESTERN DEFENSE, AND THE UNITED STATES WILL CONTINUE
WHEREVER POSSIBLE TO MAKE ITS ATTITUDE KNOWN.

HOWEVER, WE ARE CONVINCED THAT IT IS NOT REALISTIC

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TO BELIEVE THAT A COMPLETE CHANGE IN THE ATTITUDE OF CER-

TAIN NATO ALLIES IS POSSIBLE AT THIS TIME. WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT THE POSITION WHICH THE SPANISH GOVERNMENT HAS TAKEN WITH REGARD TO THE REDUCTION OR ELIMINATION OF CERTAIN FACILITIES ONLY SERVES TO WEAKEN NOT ONLY US-SPANISH COOPERATION, BUT ALSO THE PROSPECTS FOR AN INCREASED SPANISH ROLE IN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS. IT IS OUR VIEW THAT EVENTS IN EUROPE ARE MOVING IN DIRECTIONS WHICH FAVOR GREATER PARTICIPATION BY SPAIN IN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, INCLUDING THAT OF DEFENSE. UNQTE

2. IF YOU COULD LET ME HAVE APPROVAL FOR THIS REVISED PARAGRAPH AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE, I WILL ENDEAVOR TO GET IT TO CORTINA EITHER JULY 17 OR JULY 18.
STABLER

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